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**SALT LAKE CITY, - DEC. 18, 1905.**

### A GREAT PROJECT ASSURED.

It is very gratifying to learn that the needful appropriation for the Strawberry Valley irrigation project will be made by the government, and that we may consider the matter as settled so far as that part of it is concerned. There has been much misrepresentation concerning the action of the Senators from Utah, who have been accused of delaying affairs until it was too late to receive government aid, because the funds available had all been appropriated.

The truth is, that the delay was caused by the hesitation of a number of the farmers and others in Utah county who held prior water rights and were very reluctant about signing them over to the government. This proceeding, however, was necessary. Every effort possible was made to bring about an agreement among the water-users of that county, and up to a recent date it had not been accomplished.

The Desert News repeatedly urged the holders of water rights to get together and formally comply with the requirements of the law, in order to obtain its benefits. This paper has distastefully upon the matter for a couple of years or more. A large number of the people directly interested took steps to follow the advice given. But there were a number who were hard to convince and difficult to persuade, and it was they who hindered the consummation of the project, and not the Senators, or either of them, for they have done their utmost to bring about the desired end. But now the obstacles have been removed and it will be plain sailing for the future.

The benefits which will be derived from the prosecution of this work do not all appear at present. But it will be found that they will not only inure to the good of the people in the south end of Utah county, but the waters of Utah lake will be increased in volume, particularly after the lands that will be newly watered are saturated and seepage takes place, and the result will be that Salt Lake county and city will also reap some of the advantages.

We congratulate Senators Smoot and Sutherland on the success of their labors at the seat of government, and the people of Utah county on being in a position to enjoy the wealth that will flow from the great undertaking, which will be conducted under the direction of United States officials, will water lands that previously were arid, and increase the supply to areas heretofore insufficiently irrigated. We should all rejoice in the prospective success of this grand enterprise.

### A COMPARISON.

The dispatches from Russia give but an inadequate idea of the depth of misery into which that empire has been plunged. It is a vast country, stretching almost from the Atlantic to the Pacific, across two continents, and all over this area anarchy prevails, with strikes, riots, robbery and murder. Though the season of peace and good will is at hand, many Russians seem to be bent only on violence and destruction, without any definite plan, or clear understanding of the final outcome.

Many a crime has been committed in Russia since the fatal blunder of the czar in permitting his troops to fire upon peaceful petitioners. Revolutions are generally accompanied by such crimes, and the Russian uprising is no exception. But the world freely gives the Russian people their warm sympathy, notwithstanding the course they have taken. For, there seemed to be no other remedy for the chronic ills of the commonwealth. They simply realized that endurance of oppression had reached its limit, and they resolved, like Samson of old, to overturn the pillars of the house of Dagon, even if that would prove their last act of vengeance. They had come to a condition in which liberty and death, if one was to be the price of the other, seemed preferable to continuous existence in slavery. And for that reason, all the world that has advanced beyond the Russian stage of civilization, extends sympathy to the Russian patriots, though the bureaucrats of that country, of course, brand them as rebels, assassins, robbers, and violators of law.

It has been the curse of nations under tyrannical forms of government, that needed changes in the administration, or the laws—such changes as development and new circumstances from time to time demand—are hardly ever made in time to prevent disaster. The citizens have no voice in the government, and can only submit in silence. The tyrants do not know the needs of the people, and sometimes do not care to know. If their subjects complain, they are considered rebels and are shot down. How can wrongs be righted under such systems of government? What can be done, when even free speech is a crime? There seems to be no other

way than for patriots to sacrifice themselves, break the bonds by which the people are deprived of their inherent rights, take the consequences, and rely on the vindication of impartial history, which is sure to be given.

That the Russians have a just cause, no one can deny. The entire cultivable soil is in the hands of a few owners. The crown holds nearly 35 per cent, and another large portion is owned by the nobility and the landed proprietors. The czar has private estates of more than 1,000,000 square miles of cultivated lands and forests, with gold and other mines in Siberia, the annual income of which is estimated at \$12,000,000. The Grand Duke Michael has 35 immense estates, and a score of palaces and castles. Other grand dukes are similarly provided for, in addition to holding the highest offices in army and navy. The public debt is nearly \$4,000,000,000, and out of total annual expenditures approximating \$200,000,000 but \$20,000,000 is spent for education. Every able-bodied man is liable to 18 years' military service, of which four years must be with the colors. And yet the people so burdened have been denied representation, denied a voice in the management of the government.

How superior do the institutions of our own country appear when compared to those of unfortunate Russia! Here, revolutions are never necessary. When laws become obsolete, or new laws are needed to meet new conditions, the people have the means in their hands to effect the desired reform, by lawful means, without violence. It is a lamentable fact that even here, at times, mobs in mad fury become rioters and law-breakers. This, we believe, has in every instance been without justification. For under our system of government there is no wrong that cannot be righted by peaceful means, if the disposition to fairness and justice is there. That is one of the blessings of popular representation. It is a safe-guard against the accumulation of evils which, in the absence of vigilance, continues until a terrific explosion takes place, as was the case when the French revolution made the world tremble, and as is the case in Russia today.

### THE JEWS AWAKENING.

It was a remarkable demonstration which was held in New York a few days ago, when 100,000 persons wearing mourning badges paraded the streets, protesting in this solemn manner against the slaughter of Jews in Russia. In the procession were many survivors of the Kishineff massacres, and the protest can hardly fail to make an impression.

Another feature of activity among the Jews is equally remarkable. They have suddenly awakened to the duty of self-defense. They are gathering money for the destitute of their brethren, but these contributions, we believe, are also intended for defense. At least, this may be inferred from the tone of some patriotic speeches recently delivered. One of their orators recently said: "It is well enough to send the suffering people food and money, but it would be vastly better to send them means of defending themselves—send them firearms, bullets, if necessary." And there is little doubt that this is being done.

In the meantime Canada invites the Russian Jews to come and settle in that country. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the prime minister, speaking at a meeting of sympathy, took occasion to state that the Jews would be welcome there, and it must be admitted that Canada has room enough for as many as may accept that invitation. There the Jews would find opportunities and rights denied them by a tyrant government in Russia. There they might make themselves a power politically to be felt in the world over, as they are in the United States.

But the ultimate destiny of the Jews as a nation is Palestine. And first when they have established themselves there, will their true world-mission commence. The ancient Seers were very explicit on that point. They repeatedly foretold the gathering in Canaan, and the final redemption of that land. Here are a few Scripture passages on that subject:

"For Jehovah will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel and set them in their own land."—Isaiah, xiv, 1.

"The days come, saith Jehovah, that they shall no more say, 'Jehovah liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt,' but 'Jehovah liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the North Country.' It is, Russia—the 'North Country' from Palestine, and from all the countries whither I had driven them, and they shall dwell in their own land."—Jeremiah, xlii, 7, 8.

"Lo! the days come, saith Jehovah, that I will bring again the captivity of My people Israel and Judah, and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it."—Jeremiah, xxx, 3.

"Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the nations whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land."—Ezekiel, xxxvii, 21.

"I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled out of their land, which I have given them, saith Jehovah, thy God."—Amos, ix, 15.

"They shall no more be a prey to the nations, neither shall the beast of the land devour them, but they shall dwell safely and none shall make them afraid."—Ezekiel, xxxiv, 28.

The hope of the world centers in the redemption of Judah and Israel, and that is the reason why the present events that transpire all over the world are watched with intense interest by all who are awake, listening to hear the midnight cry.

At Annapolis the unwritten "code" overrides the written law.

Russian refugees are swarming over the country like Kansas grasshopper sufferers did two decades ago.

The federal grand jury in Philadelphia cannot help seeing that the people are coming to their own. What right has a czar, or any other ruler or lordling, depending on his birth for his superior claim, to pretend to rule over his subjects? Are we not all born equal? Is there any one really born to the purple? There are those who teach, even in this country, that suffrage is a privilege and not a right. We do not agree with them. We are told that the right to rule belongs to birth, or caste or culture. Another lesson this revolution is teaching.

The old French acclamation was right: "Liberty, fraternity, equality." Europe is in a fair way to learn—and strange that Russia, even Russia, should teach the lesson, that to claim the right of birth to rule over subjects is a crime, is a robbery, a robbery which the people robbed of their rights will some day resist—and how soon? There is a handwriting on the wall, and it says: "Peres, thy kingdom is taken from thee and given to mujiks and artisans." The day of the French revolution seems to have come to Russia, when kings died from their thrones, and for a few days the people were supreme? Can European thrones still rest on the poles of bayonets? That is the question.

It's up to Mr. Ryan to prove that his motives were "pure and unselfish," and if he can't prove it, let him hold his peace for evermore.

Mr. Hearst still has confidence that he will win out in the majority fight. He is so certain because he feels that the election was a confidence game.

If Santa Claus wants to make Mayor Dunne the happiest man in the Windy City, he will put into his stocking on Christmas eve a feasible municipal ownership plan.

It begins to look as though the report of the life insurance investigating committee would fill as many volumes as the naval and military records of the rebellion.

Secretary Bonaparte and Rear Admiral Converse have had a conference and mapped out a plan of campaign for stamping out hazing at Annapolis. Why didn't they call in consultation the board of strategy?

Thomas A. Edison prophesies that electric automobiles will drive out the horse. Mr. Edison has made so many rash prophecies about the automobile that the people have come to regard them as simply a cry of wolf.

Mr. Harriman told Mr. Ryan that if he was satisfied that in buying Hyde's Equitable stock his motives were pure and unselfish, he would help him. What a pity that such care was not always exercised in Equitable affairs!

The Sultan, consciously or unconsciously, is becoming the funny man of Europe. He has directed the Turkish ambassador at St. Petersburg to call Russia's attention to the condition of affairs at Tiflis, Trans-Caucasia.

### USEFUL PRESENTS.

San Francisco Bulletin.

Yet, let us confess it, the most sensible of us do not take quite the amount of pleasure in a thoroughly useful present that we derive from a present that is more ornamental. From the boy of 10 that bawls because his aunt in the country sends him a new toy, instead of the rifle which he needs for his life-work of killing Indians and big game, to the old woman of seventy that delights in the gift of a silk shawl, which she won't wear, and would be offended if some one were to give her a dozen dish towels, we look upon the eminently useful articles as things that come in the course of nature and are, therefore, to be despised; but the purely ornamental, the extravagant, the useless, are things that we never would buy for ourselves, and are received, therefore, by us with a very pleasing sense of pure gain. Indeed, not an inapt definition of Christmas presents would be "things that no sane man would buy for himself, but that we all buy for friends."

### DO NOT PRETEND.

From the New York American.

The woman who gave you the expensive present last year—who was she? Some one you really love, and who loves you? If she was, give her your best in love's name, and have an end to it; but if you don't care anything about her and she doesn't care anything about you, take the money you have thought of spending for her and buy a doll for the janitor's baby. If you don't want to do that, buy a collar for the pug dog, and if you don't approve of that, put your money into a thousand pieces and scatter it to the four winds of heaven. You'll be putting it to a better use than you do when you dare to deprecate a "hol' spirit" Christmas day with your mean little hypocritical pretences. Christmas day—it's the children's day, the mother's day, the heart day, the real day. Don't make it simply a day for adding up your credit and debit accounts.

### AFTER A LONG WAIT.

London Express.

A romantic wedding, which for many years had been owing to a woman's promise, took place at Sowerby near Thirsk in the North Riding of Yorkshire the other day. For nearly a quarter of a century the bride had acted as confidential housekeeper to a maiden lady who possessed considerable means. Many years ago the housekeeper met a gardener, and was wooed by him with success. But the housekeeper and her mistress were to stay with her until she died, and so the love story became one of patient waiting. Three or four weeks ago the mistress died in her ninetieth year, leaving to her faithful housekeeper her house, plate and furniture, as well as £1,000 in money. Many messages of congratulation reached the bride and groom from friends who knew the story of their courtship.

### HE COULDN'T BE FOOLED.

From an Exchange.

A shop assistant had arrived in London to help a companion. He had been warned against the people who would try and "take a rise" out of his ignorance, so was perpetually on guard. A customer entered the shop one morning, and said: "I want a penny worth of bird seed, please." The assistant only smiled. The customer repeated his request, but the assistant only responded with a broad grin on his face. Finally, the customer, losing patience, asked him in forcible language why he did not serve him with the bird seed. "It's no manner of use your trying to take me in," said the assistant. "The 'knows' the 'cannot catch me'." "What on earth do you mean?" said the angry customer. "Why, I know that birds grow from eggs, not from seed!"

### WHO WON?

Springfield Republican.

It is a question who won, the sultan or the concert. The sultan certainly gained most in the demands of the powers before he yielded; and, besides, curious spectacle—a mass-meeting of Mohammedans was held in London to protest against this everlasting nagging of Turkey by the British government. It is possible, finally, that the downfall of the Balfour ministry and the early retirement of Lord Lansdowne moved the powers to make terms on a modified basis. The Turkish problem, at least, remains.

### PEOPLE COMING TO THEIR OWN.

The Independent.

One cannot help seeing that the people are coming to their own. What right has a czar, or any other ruler or lordling, depending on his birth for his superior claim, to pretend to rule over his subjects? Are we not all born equal? Is there any one really born to the purple? There are those who teach, even in this country, that suffrage is a privilege and not a right. We do not agree with them. We are told that the right to rule belongs to birth, or caste or culture. Another lesson this revolution is teaching.

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### RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Improvement Era for December is entirely devoted to the memory of the Prophet Joseph. The frontispiece is a portrait of the Prophet, and the opening article is a eulogy by Wm. A. Hyde. This is followed by a biographical sketch, and papers on his boyhood, his characteristics as a man, a philosopher, his literary attainments, and prophetic gifts. There is also a hitherto unpublished letter by the Prophet, and a paper on what he did for Womanhood, by Sara Young Gates. The article on "Joseph Smith as a Boy" is by President Joseph F. Smith, and is an exceedingly interesting contribution to the biographical literature that centers around the latter-day Seer. Among other contributors to this number are: Willard Dore, John A. Wadsworth, Orson F. Whitney and James E. Talmage. It is one of the most interesting numbers of this excellent magazine.—Templeton Building, Salt Lake City.

Success Magazine for December contains a timely and interesting article on "How Roosevelt is Regarded Abroad." Vance Thompson, who has gained repute as the greatest American interviewer, has found everywhere on the Continent the warmest admiration for our strenuous President. "Turning Children Into Dollars," by Juliet Willbrosch, is an extremely enlightening description by this well-known writer of the way in which the child-labor law is evaded in the New York tenements, with the inevitable result of the stunting of mental and moral growth and the placing of a tremendous handicap on the coming generation. David Belasco contributes a sketch of "The Beginnings of the Drama in America," and Max Schumann-Held, in "Studying for Grand Opera," gives some suggestions, drawn from her own experience, for those whose aspirations lead toward the operatic stage. The fiction is strong, and the number generally is one of the best ever published by this magazine.—Washington Square, New York.

The December number of Men and Women magazine is pervaded throughout with the spirit of Christmas. Notable among the articles are Judge Edward J. Dempsey's "The Knell of Political Bossism," and Will J. Donovan's article on the Extravagance of Congress. The fiction particularly breathes the spirit of Christmas, although in no sense the ordinary "Christmas" stories. The department pages are rich in good things: Christmas games, Christmas magic, Christmas humor, Christmas cooking, Christmas gifts, Christmas candles, Christmas music, —Cincinnati, Ohio.

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A \$6.50 Coat for.....\$4.33 A \$10.00 Coat for.....\$6.66  
A \$7.50 Coat for.....\$5.00 A \$11.00 Coat for.....\$7.33  
A \$8.50 Coat for.....\$5.66 A \$12.00 Coat for.....\$8.00  
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